

1. *Chlorophyll* *a* and *b* content of the leaves was determined by the method of Arar and Johnson (1977). The leaves were ground in a mortar and pestle with liquid nitrogen and extracted with 80% methanol. The extract was filtered and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in a small volume of 80% methanol and the absorbance was measured at 663 and 646 nm. The concentration of chlorophyll *a* and *b* was calculated from the absorbance values using the following equations: $Chl\ a = 12.7 \times A_{663} - 2.13 \times A_{646}$ and $Chl\ b = 21.6 \times A_{646} - 5.10 \times A_{663}$ (Arar and Johnson, 1977).

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